

Claims

- [c1] 1. A magazine-based data cartridge library comprising:
a first portion of a magazine-based data cartridge library
comprising:
a first frame that defines a first side; and
a first passageway extending through a portion of said first
side;
a second portion of a magazine-based data cartridge library
comprising:
a second frame that defines a second side; and
a second passageway extending through a portion of said
second side
a magazine transport device for moving a data cartridge
magazine within said first frame, moving a data cartridge
magazine through said first and second passageways, and
moving a data cartridge magazine within said second frame.
- [c2] 2. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in
claim 1, wherein:
said magazine transport device comprises:
a magazine picker; and
an elevator for moving said magazine picker;
wherein said elevator comprises a horizontal guide.
- [c3] 3. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in

claim 2, wherein:

said horizontal guide comprises a continuous horizontal guide that extends between said first and second frames.

[c4] 4. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 2, wherein:

said horizontal guide comprises:

a first horizontal section that extends from a first horizontal section first end to a first horizontal section second end; and
a second horizontal section that extends from a second horizontal section first end to a second horizontal section second end;

wherein said first horizontal section second end is substantially aligned with said second horizontal section first end.

[c5] 5. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 2, wherein:

said horizontal guide comprises:

a first horizontal guide section located within said first frame;
a second horizontal guide section located within said second frame; and

a third horizontal guide section extending between said first horizontal guide section and said second horizontal guide section.

[c6] 6. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in

claim 2, wherein:

said horizontal guide is substantially linear.

[c7] 7. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 2, wherein:
said horizontal guide follows a curve.

[c8] 8. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 2, further comprising:
a cartridge transport device for moving a data cartridge between a magazine and a drive;
wherein said cartridge transport comprises said elevator.

[c9] 9. A magazine based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
said magazine transport device comprises:
a first magazine transport device for moving a data cartridge magazine within said first frame; and
a second magazine transport device for moving a data cartridge magazine within said second frame and within a first space that is within said first frame.

[c10] 10. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 9, wherein:
said first magazine transport device further for moving a data cartridge magazine within a second space that is within said second frame.

[c11] 11. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 9, wherein:
said magazine transport device comprises:
a first magazine transport device moving a data cartridge magazine within said first frame and within space that is located between said first and second frames; and
a second magazine transport device for moving a data cartridge magazine within said second frame and within said space that is located between said first and second frames.

[c12] 12. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 1, wherein:
said magazine transport device comprises:
a first magazine transport device for moving a data cartridge magazine within said first frame;
a second magazine transport device for moving a data cartridge magazine within said second frame; and
a third magazine transport device for moving a data cartridge magazine through said first and second passageways.

[c13] 13. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 12, wherein:
said first and second magazine transport devices each move in a plane.

[c14] 14. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 13 wherein:

said third magazine transport device comprises:
a support for holding a data cartridge magazine; and
means for rotating said support about an axis.

[c15] 15. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 13, wherein:

said third magazine transport device comprises:
a support for holding a data cartridge magazine; and
means for linearly translating said support.

[c16] 16. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 12, wherein:

said first and second magazine transport devices each rotate about an axis.

[c17] 17. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 16, wherein:

said second magazine transport device comprises:
a support for holding a data cartridge magazine; and
means for rotating said support about an axis.

[c18] 18. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 16, wherein:

said second magazine transport device comprises:
a support for holding a data cartridge magazine; and
means for linearly translating said support.

[c19] 19. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in

claim 12, further comprising:

a cartridge transport device for moving a data cartridge between a magazine and a drive;

wherein at least one of said first and second magazine transport devices comprises an elevator; and

wherein said cartridge transport device comprises said elevator.

[c20] 20. A magazine-based data cartridge library, as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

said first portion is capable of functioning as a magazine-based data cartridge library without said second portion.

[c21] 21. A method for making a magazine-based data cartridge library comprising:

first providing a magazine-based data cartridge library comprising:

a cabinet;

a shelf, located within said cabinet, for supporting a data cartridge magazine;

a drive located within said cabinet;

a cartridge transport, located within said cabinet, for moving a data cartridge between a data cartridge magazine and said drive;

a magazine transport device, located within said cabinet, for moving a data cartridge magazine within said cabinet;

wherein said magazine transport device comprising:
a magazine picker; and
a guide structure for use in moving said magazine picker
within said cabinet; and
wherein said cabinet comprising a side surface that is readily
alterable to form a first passageway; and
second providing a magazine-based data cartridge library add-
on comprising:
an add-on cabinet;
wherein said add-on cabinet comprising a side surface that is
readily alterable to form a second passageway or has a
second passageway.

[c22] 22. A method, as claimed in claim 21, further comprising:
third providing a replacement guide structure for said guide
structure of said magazine-based data cartridge library;
wherein when said first passageway of said magazine-based
data cartridge library and said second passageway of said
magazine-based data cartridge library add-on are aligned,
said replacement guide being of a length such that said
magazine picker can be moved within said cabinet and said
add-on cabinet.

[c23] 23. A method, as claimed in claim 21, further comprising:
third providing an add-on guide structure for said guide
structure of said magazine-based data cartridge library;

wherein when said first passageway of said magazine-based data cartridge library and said second passageway of said magazine-based data cartridge library add-on are aligned, said guide of said magazine-based data cartridge library and said add-on guide structure being of a length such that said magazine picker can be moved within said cabinet and said add-on cabinet.

- [c24] 24. A method, as claimed in claim 23, wherein:
said add-on guide structure comprises a first add-on guide structure and a second add-on guide structure.
- [c25] 25. A method, as claimed in claim 21, wherein:
said step of second providing comprising providing a first add-on magazine transport device, located within said add-on cabinet, for moving a data cartridge magazine within said add-on cabinet.
- [c26] 26. A method, as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:
third providing a second add-on data cartridge magazine device for transporting a data cartridge magazine between said magazine based data cartridge library and said magazine based data cartridge library add-on.